



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## New Jersey Organic Production Up in 2015

**TRENTON, NJ** – New Jersey was home to 75 Certified Organic farms in 2015 on 2,349 acres reaping \$11.3 million in agricultural products sold. Four years earlier there were 44 Certified Organic Farms on 1,643 acres with \$6.4 million in sales.

Garden State vegetables ranked highly for organic sales of tomatoes (3<sup>rd</sup>), spinach (3<sup>rd</sup>), and bell peppers (4<sup>th</sup>). Other top ten crops for New Jersey included lettuce, watermelon, and squash. Tomatoes led Garden State in organic sales at \$2.7 million.

Two thirds of Certified Organic producers sold to consumers directly. Ninety two percent sold locally.

**Background:** The organic reports provide acreage, production, and sales data for a variety of organic crop and livestock commodities as well as organic marketing and agricultural practices. The first organic survey was initiated in 2008 to support an emerging organic industry.

The 2008 and 2014 organic surveys were conducted as part of the Census of Agriculture as a Special Study. These data collection efforts surveyed all known certified, exempt, and transitioning organic operations.

The 2011 and 2015 organic surveys were conducted in cooperation with the USDA's Risk Management Agency in an effort to expand the number and variety of premium price elections for certified organic crops. The surveys in these years were restricted to only certified organic operations.

Results from all organic surveys as well as more information on the NASS Organic Program can be found here: <https://www.nass.usda.gov/organics>

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